

Ontonagon



Harbor Town

Gateway to the Porcupine Mountains

VILLAGE OF ONTONAGON

EI-18085

315 Quartz Street
Ontonagon, Michigan 49953
906-884-2305 Fax: 906-884-4369
TDD: 1-800-649-3777

Founded in 1843 CR

March 22, 2010

Scott Frazer
President

Bill Johnson
President Pro-Tem

Vacancy
Manager

Joan Nygard
Clerk/Treasurer

TRUSTEES
Tom Banse
Mark Burgess
Victoria James
Dianne Kattelus
Elmer Marks, Jr.

Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-001

Re: STB Docket No. AB-415 (Sub-No. 2X)

Based on the proposed Environmental and Historical Report the Village of Ontonagon wants to go on record with the following objections.

Section 3 Land Use:

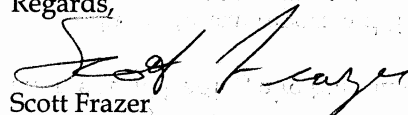
(i) The Village of Ontonagon would like to express how important the railroad is to its future economic revitalization and growth. The Village of Ontonagon is one of only three deep water ports in the Upper Peninsula that has rail access. The railroad is being promoted to help in attracting business and industry to return to Ontonagon. The contacts from industry that have been made expressed great interest in the port and rail combination. The railroad provides an essential link for industry.

(iv) The Village of Ontonagon is already part of an extensive trail network that is used during all seasons. The railway is more valuable as a railroad rather than another trail leading into the Village.

As for the Historical report and final disposition of the structures; the Village of Ontonagon would like EL & S to report on how the State of Michigan and the County of Ontonagon Michigan would be reimbursed on the funds that were used in rehabilitating the rail line and report on the final disposition of the Depot and transfer structure (located at the end of Copper Street). Also, in regards to the transfer structure an environmental report should be completed before EL & S is allowed to abandon this structure.

The Village of Ontonagon strongly opposes the abandonment of this rail line. This rail line is the key to the future economic recovery of not only the Village of Ontonagon but also the entire County.

Regards,


Scott Frazer
Village President

The Village of Ontonagon is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to:

USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, DC 20250-9410.

